Amendment to the Claims

In the Claims:

Please cancel Claims 5, 9, and 10 and amend Claims 1, 2, 3, 4, 8, and 11-17 as follows.

1. (Currently Amended) A method for delivering batches of data to a client, while maintaining a user's state within a database table, the method comprising the steps of:

receiving a request for a first batch of records to be retrieved from the database table maintained by a database server;

retrieving the first batch of records from the database server;

determining a ~~minimum value and~~ maximum value for at least one field in the first batch of records;

receiving a request for a second batch of records;

~~in response to a determination that~~ determining whether the request for the second batch of records was for a next ~~request~~ batch of data, ~~retrieving the second batch of records from the database server,~~ wherein the request for the second batch of records ~~contains~~ specifies a value for the at least one field that ~~is greater than the maximum value of~~ has a specific relationship relative to the maximum value for the at least one field in the first batch of records, to indicate whether the request is for the next batch of data; and

in response to a determination that the request for the second batch of records was ~~a previous request~~ for the next batch of data, based on the value specified in the request for the second batch of records being greater than the maximum value for said at least one field in the first batch of records, retrieving the ~~second~~ next batch of ~~records~~ data from the database server~~, wherein the second batch of records contains a value for the at least one field that is less than the minimum value of the at least one field in the first batch of records~~.

2. (Currently Amended) The method of Claim 1, wherein the request for ~~a~~ the second batch of records is a Structured Query Language (SQL) statement.

3. (Currently Amended) The method of Claim 2, further comprising the step of storing the maximum value ~~and the minimum value~~ for inclusion in a subsequent request for a batch of records.

4. (Currently Amended) The method of Claim 2,

wherein the SQL statement has the form:

SELECT TOP 20 * FROM Table

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WHERE

(Table.Field1 > Current Maximum Field1)

OR

(Table.Field1 = Current Maximum Field1 AND

Table.Field2 > Current Maximum Field2); and

wherein a Table clause represents the name of the database table, a Current Maximum Field1 represents a maximum value of a Field1 field in previously received records, and a Current Maximum Field2 represents a maximum value of a Field2 field in previously received records.

5. (Cancelled)

6. (Original) The method of Claim 1, further comprising the step of providing the user with a previous button operative for initiating the request for a second batch of records.

7. (Original) The method of Claim 1, further comprising the step of providing the user with a next button operative for initiating the request for a second batch of records.

8. (Currently Amended) A system for delivering batches of database records to a client, while maintaining a user's state within a database table, comprising:

a database server operative for maintaining the database table, which has a plurality of database records;

a client computer, operative for ~~presenting a batch~~ requesting successive batches of the database records from the database server and presenting the batches of database records to the user, where each successive batch of database records requested can comprise a next batch of database records, relative to a last batch of database records requested by the client computer;

a web server operative for retrieving a batch of database records from the database server and for providing the batch of database records to the client computer, said web server determining whether successive batches of database records are the next batch of database records, relative to the last batch of database records requested by the client computer;

wherein the client computer ~~is further operative for storing~~ accesses at least one field value contained in ~~a retrieved~~ the last batch of database records retrieved to determine a maximum value for said at least one field, said maximum value being provided to the web server by the client computer; and

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wherein the web server is further operative to determine ~~which~~ whether to retrieve the next batch of database records ~~to retrieve~~ from the database server, based on the maximum value of said at least one field value contained in the ~~received~~ last batch of database records retrieved, ~~and stored by the client computer~~ said web server retrieving the next batch of database records from the database server if the next batch of database records contains a value for said at least one field that is greater than the maximum value of said at least one field in the last batch of database records retrieved.

9. (Cancelled)

10. (Cancelled)

11. (Currently Amended) The system of Claim 8, wherein the web server does not maintain a record of the user's state within the database table.

12. (Currently Amended) The system of Claim 11, wherein the database server does not maintain a record of the user's state within the database table.

13. (Currently Amended) The system of Claim 12, wherein the database server does not create a partitioned database.

14. (Currently Amended) The system of Claim 8, wherein the client computer does not maintain a record of the user's state within the database table.

15. (Currently Amended) A computer-readable medium having computer-executable instructions for delivering batches of data from a database server to a client, maintaining a user's state within a database table, by performing steps comprising:

receiving a request for a first batch of records to be retrieved from ~~a~~ the database table ~~on a~~ maintained by the database server;

~~retrieving~~ providing the first batch of records ~~from the database server~~ to the client, wherein the first batch of records has a maximum value for at least one field;

~~determining a minimum value and maximum value for at least one field in the first batch of records;~~

receiving a request from the client for a second batch of records to be retrieved from the database table, said request for the second batch of records specifying a value for the at least one field;

~~making a determination as to which records in the database server to retrieve, based on~~ determining if the request for the second batch of records from the database table was for a next batch

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of data, relative to the first batch of records, wherein the value for the at least one field specified in the second request has a specific relationship relative to the maximum value for the at least one field in the first batch of records, so that if the value specified is determined to be greater than the maximum value ~~or the minimum value~~ of said at least one field for the first batch of records, the request for the second batch of records is determined to be for the next batch of data; and

in response to a determination of whether to provide the next batch of data, providing the second batch of records to the client as requested.

16. (Currently Amended) The computer readable medium of Claim 15, wherein the step of ~~making a determination as to which records in the database server to retrieve,~~ determining does not require the database server to maintain a record of the first batch of records ~~retrieved from the database table~~ provided to the client.

17. (Currently Amended) The computer-readable medium of Claim 15, wherein the database server does not create a partitioned database.

Please add new Claims 18 - 30.

18. (New) A method for delivering batches of data to a client, while maintaining a user's state within a database table, the method comprising the steps of:

receiving a request for a first batch of records to be retrieved from the database table maintained by a database server;

retrieving the first batch of record from the database server;

determining a minimum value for at least one field in the first batch of records;

receiving a request for a second batch of records;

determining whether the request for the second batch of records was for a previous batch of data, wherein the request for the second batch of records specifies a value for the at least one field that has a specific relationship relative to the minimum value for the at least one field in the first batch of records, to indicate whether the request is for the previous batch of data; and

in response to a determination that the request for the second batch of records was for the previous batch of data, based on the value specified in the request for the second batch of records being less than the minimum value for said at least one field in the first batch of records, retrieving the previous batch of data from the database server.

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19. (New) The method of Claim 18, wherein the request for the second batch of records is a Structured Query Language (SQL) statement.

20. (New) The method of Claim 19, further comprising the step of storing the minimum value for inclusion in a subsequent request for a batch of records.

21. (New) The method of Claim 19,

wherein the SQL statement has the form:

SELECT TO 20 * FROM

(SELECT TOP 20 * FROM Table

WHERE

(Table.Field1 < Current Maximum Field1)

OR

(Table.Field1 = Current Minimum Field1 AND

Table.Field2 < Current Minimum Field2)

ORDER BY Table.Field1 DESC, Table.Field2 DESC); and

wherein a Table clause represents the name of the database table, a Current Minimum Field1 represents a minimum value of a Field1 field in previously received records, and a Current Minimum Field2 represents a minimum value of a Field2 field in previously received records.

22. (New) The method of Claim 18, further comprising the step of providing the user with a previous button operative for initiating the request for a second batch of records.

23. (New) A system for delivering batches of database records to a client, while maintaining a user's state within a database table, comprising:

a database server operative for maintaining the database table, which has a plurality of database records;

a client computer, operative for requesting successive batches of the database records from the database server and presenting the batches of database records to the user, where each successive batch of database records requested can comprise a previous batch of database records, relative to a last batch of database records requested by the client computer;

a web server operative for retrieving a batch of database records from the database server and for providing the batch of database records to the client computer, said web server determining

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whether successive batches of database records are the previous batch of database records, relative to the last batch of database records requested by the client computer;

wherein the client computer accesses at least one field value contained in the last batch of database records retrieved to determine a minimum value for said at least one field, said minimum value being provided to the web server by the client computer; and

wherein the web server is further operative to determine whether to retrieve the previous batch of database records from the database server, based on the minimum value of said at least one field value contained in the last batch of database records retrieved, said web server retrieving the previous batch of database records from the database server if the previous batch of database records contains a value for said at least one field that is less than the minimum value of said at least one field in the last batch of database records retrieved.

24. (New) The system of Claim 23, wherein the web server does not maintain a record of the user's state within the database table.

25. (New) The system of Claim 24, wherein the database server does not maintain a record of the user's state within the database table.

26. (New) The system of Claim 25, wherein the database server does not create a partitioned database.

27. (New) The system of Claim 23, wherein the client computer does not maintain a record of the user's state within the database table.

28. (New) A computer-readable medium having computer-executable instructions for delivering batches of data from a database server to a client, maintaining a user's state within a database table, by performing steps comprising:

receiving a request for a first batch of records to be retrieved from the database table maintained by the database server;

providing the first batch of records to the client, wherein the first batch of records has a minimum value for at least one field;

receiving a request from the client for a second batch of records to be retrieved from the database table, said request for the second batch of records specifying a value for the at least one field;

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determining if the request for the second batch of records from the database table was for a previous batch of data, relative to the first batch of records, wherein the value for the at least one field specified in the second request has a specific relationship relative to the minimum value for the at least one field in the first batch of records, so that if the value specified is determined to be less than the minimum value of said at least one field for the first batch of records, the request for the second batch of records is determined to be for the previous batch of data; and

in response to a determination of whether to provide the previous batch of data, providing the second batch of records to the client as requested.

29. (New) The computer readable medium of Claim 28, wherein the step of determining does not require the database server to maintain a record of the first batch of records provided to the client.

30. (New) The computer-readable medium of Claim 28, wherein the database server does not create a partitioned database.

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